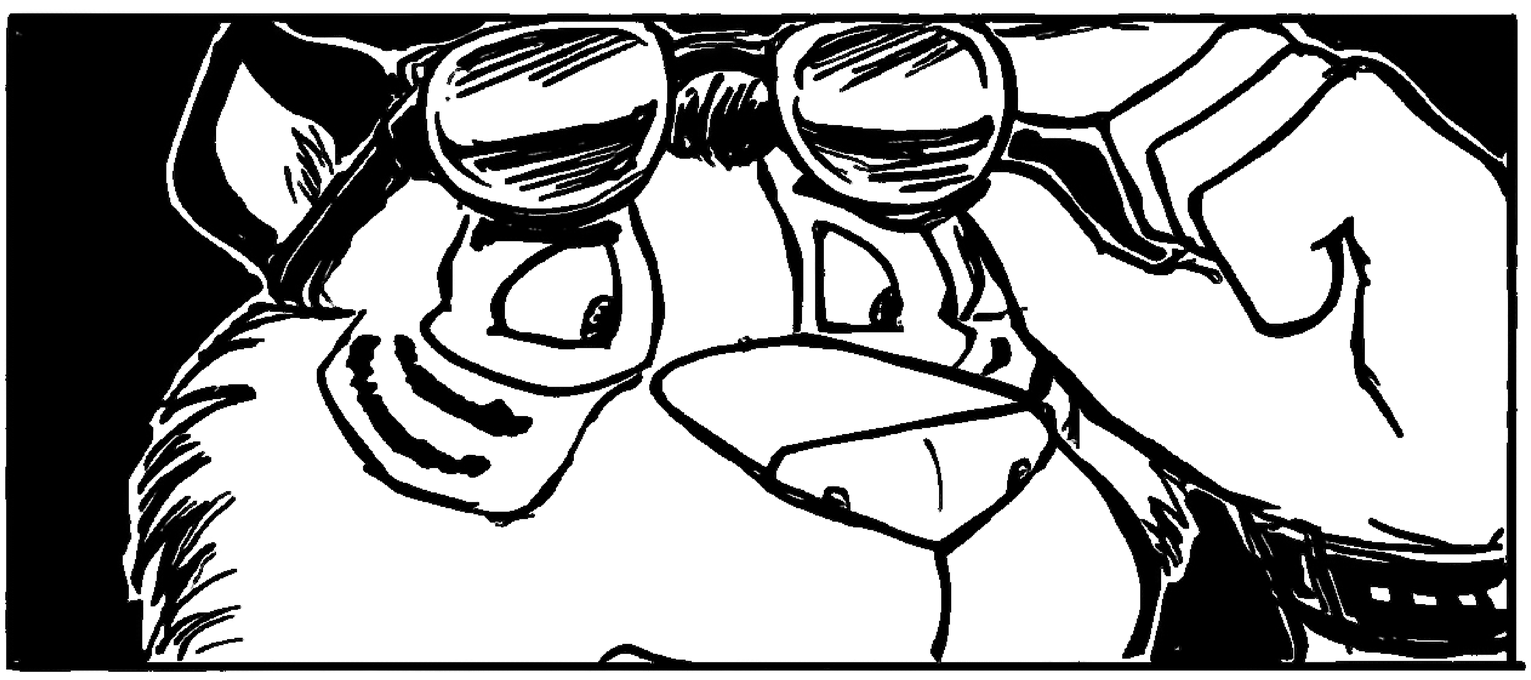
SO #1

iSO CHAPTER 0

IN SEARCH OF PEACE & QUIET



A COMIC BOOK SERIES BY THE CREATOR OF "THE CLASS MENAGERIE"



ART & STORY BY

VINCE SUZUKAWA









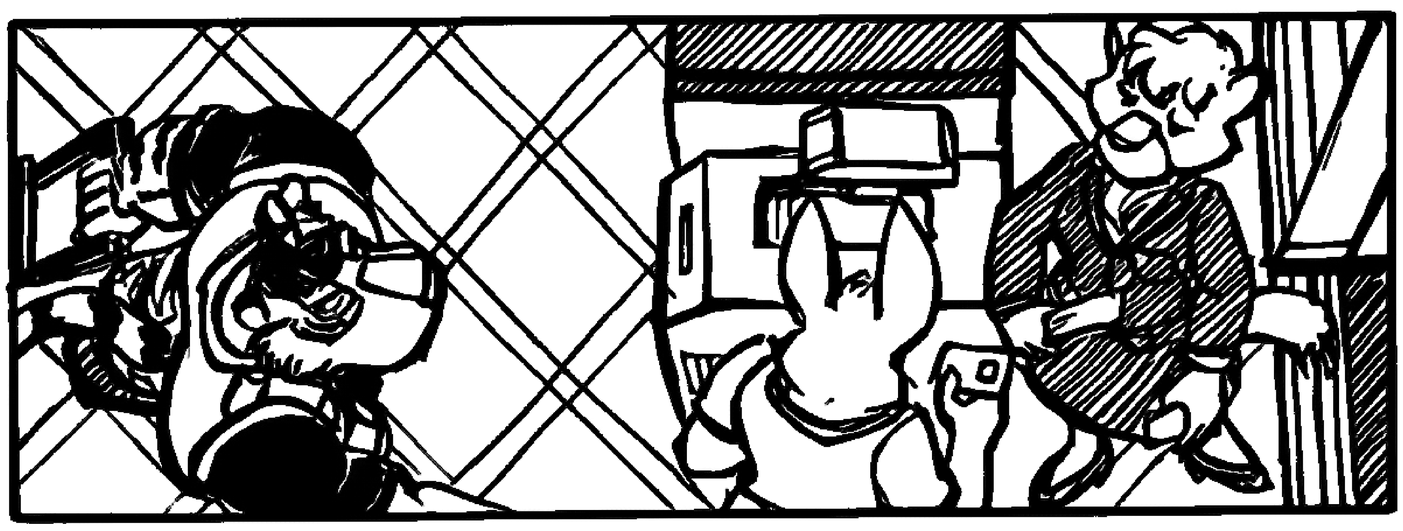



Aloha
HONOLULU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

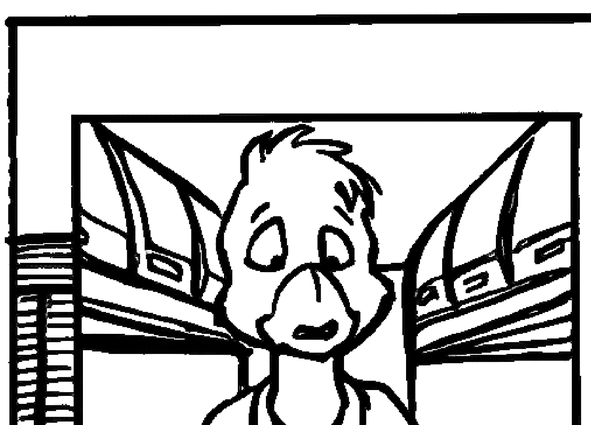

ZINES
MEN


MEN


← BAGGAGE CLAIM
← TRANSPORTATION



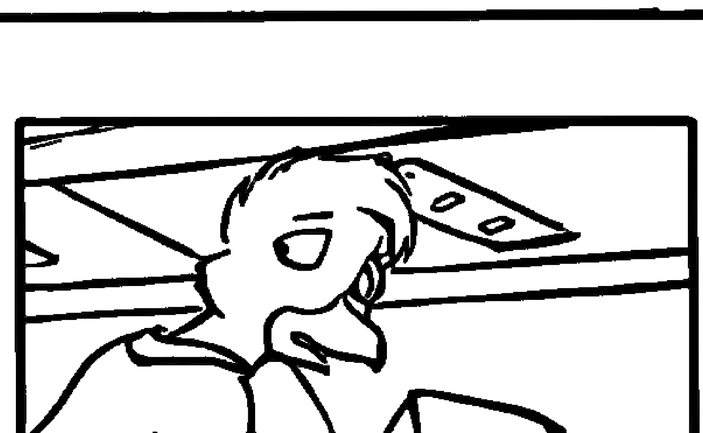




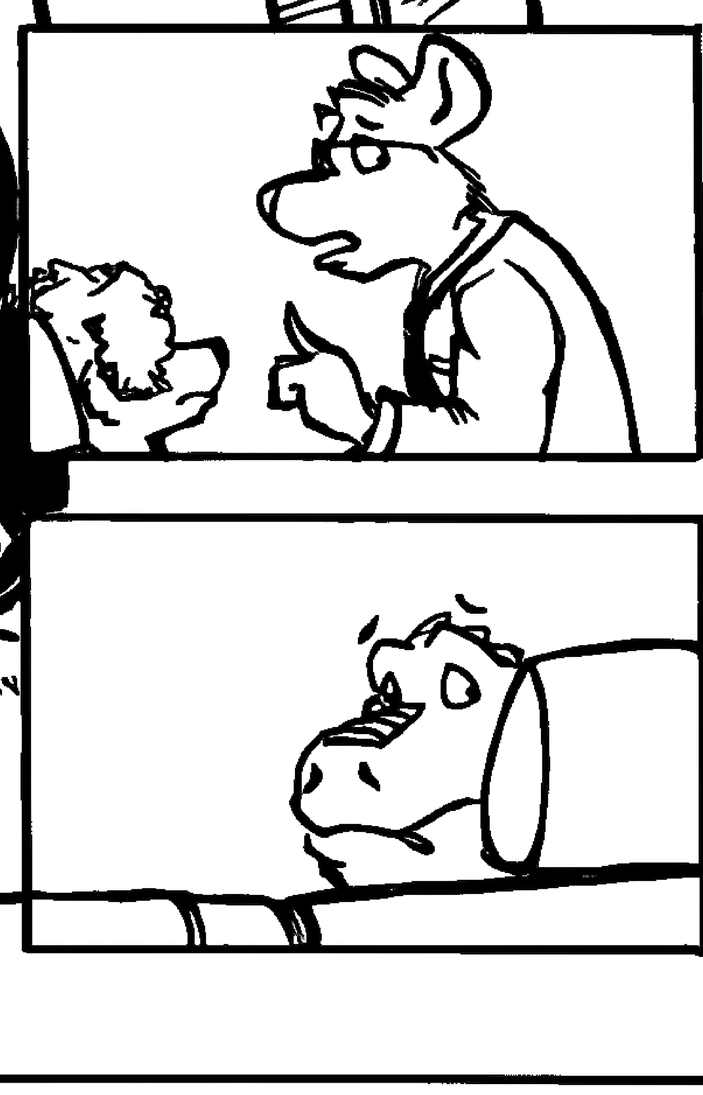












G'DAY, MAITE. LOOKS LAIKE THIS IS THE ONLY SEAT LEFT.

ARE YOU SURE? I DON'T THINK--

NOW THEN, AI SEE YER A BIG BLOKE TOO. IT MAIGHT BE A TAIGHT SQUEEZE AT FIRST, BUT AI'M SURE AI'LL FIT JUST FAINE.

MAYBE YOU CAN TRADE?

GENTLEMEN, CAN YOU PLEASE BE SEATED SO WE CAN TAKE OFF?

AI SEE WHY THE CALL IT THE "REDEYE"...AI WON'T SLEEP 'TIL AI GET YER NUMBAH.

ORIGINAL. BUT, NO.

WELL, IF NOT FOAH ONE CUTE GUY, 'OW 'BOUT TWO?

WOULD YOU JUST SIDDOWN?

PEACE 'N' QUIYOT? SAY NO MOAH, MAITE, AI'VE GOT TUNES TOO...

BAI THE WAY, AI'M JAKE. AND YOU ARE..?

CODY. LISTEN... JAKE, I'VE HAD A LONG DAY, SO IF YOU DON'T MIND, I'D LIKE A LITTLE--

GLAD TO NOT HEAR IT.

CAN YOU TRY SOMETHING A LITTLE MORE...SEDATE, PLEASE?

WELL, SINCE Y'ASKED SO NAICELY...

LAIKE A CLOSAH LOOK?

WOW, SHE'S... FLEXIBLE.

IS ONE O' MAI FAVES. WOULDN'T YA LAIKE T'BE IN 'IS SHOES?

WELL--

OH, I'M SORRY BUT...YOU'RE NOT TWENTY-ONE YET. I CAN'T LET YOU BUY ONE.

HELLO AGAIN. WOULD YOU TWO LIKE SOMETHING TO DRINK?

AI'D LAIKE A BEEAH.

MAY I SEE YOUR ID PLEASE?

SAVED!

CRAIKEY! AI ONLY NEED T'BE EIGHTEEN WHERE AI'M FROM.

MAYBE MAI FRIEND 'ERE WOULD LAIKE T'BUY A BEEAH, HINT HINT...

I'M NOT TWENTY-ONE EITHER.

YER NOT? BUT YER HUGE! AREN'T STEROIDS ILLEGAL 'ERE TOO?

THAT DOES IT. NO MORE DISTURBANCES! I DON'T CARE IF THERE'S LITTLE GREEN MEN ON THE WING, OR "99 BOTTLES OF BEER ON THE WALL" KARAOKE.

BUT--

LOOK, I'M SORRY TO SEEM LIKE A JERK, BUT I WANT SOME REST BEFORE THE NIGHT IS OVER. OKAY? THANKS.

ZZZ....MMM, WARM N' FLUFFEH.

UH...JAKE? JAKE!

ZZZ...MMPH.

ZZZ....MM, OH, BABY!

ZZ...'OWZ 'BOUT A LI'L KISS?

HONOLULU

FLIGHT 217

HONOLULU

FLIGHT 217

HONOLULU

FLIGHT 217

YOU'LL GET ARRESTED RUNNIN' 'ROUND 'ERE LAIKE THAUT, MAITE... UH...CODY?

CRAIKEY, WHERE'D YOU GO?

1

OKAY, KID, HERE Y'ARE, DEMONTFORT UNIVERSITY.

'KAY.

!

ALRIGHTY! DEMONTFORT UNIVERSITY!

THANKS MUCH, MAITE!

TO BE CONTINUED

I.S.O. ISSUE #1

JANUARY 2006

iSO

CHAPTER 1

IN SEARCH OF INTELLIGENT LIFE FORMS

ART & STORY BY VINCE SUZUKAWA



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AAAAAA

OI! G'DAY, ROOMIE!

NAICE T' SEE YA, 'GAIN, CODY. YA RAN OFF WITHOUT SAYIN' GOODBYE.

J...JAKE? WH... WH--

IF AI'D KNOWN YOU WERE COMIN8 'ERE TOO, WE COULDA SPLIT A CAB FROM THE AIRPORT.

WH--

WHHH------

UM...

ALRAIGHT. TWITCH YER EYE ONE TIME IF THIS IS NORMAL, TWO TAIMES IF AI SHOULD DIAL 9-1-1.

WH--WH--

NO, TWENTY-FAIVE WASN'T A CHOICE.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?!

OI! NOW *THAUT* IS AN INTERESTIN' STORY THERE, MAITE...

QUEENSLAND UNIVERSY OF TECHNOLOGY, BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

ALL RIGHT, MR. PACKARD. NOW I WANT THE TRUTH.

DEAN LING

DID YOU OR DID YOU NOT SLEEP WITH MY DAUGHTER?

NAUT, SIR.

DO YOU SWEAR?

ABSOLUTELY! NEVAH TOUCHED 'ER!

SIGH. OKAY, THEN.

IT'S JUST... WELL, A NEIGHBOR HAS SEEN YOU SNEAKING INTO MY HOUSE AT NIGHT A FEW TIMES. LIKE LAST WEEKEND.

I WASN'T AROUND, BUT SUZY MAY HAVE BEEN. ACTUALLY, THE ONLY OTHER PERSON WHO COULD HAVE BEEN HOME WOULD BE--

!

MY...

SON...

DILLY...

OLIVIA, WHAT'S THE NEXT ORDER OF BUSINESS? I NEED TO GET MY MIND ON SOMETHING ELSE...QUICKLY, PLEASE!

THE EXCHANGE STUDENT PROGRAM, SIR...

UGH, I DESPISE THAT THING! WHY SUBJECT SOME POOR STUDENT TO STATES, WHERE THEY'LL...THEY'LL...

...ENDURE A YEAR OF THOSE MORONIC STEREOTYPES AMERICANS ASSIGN TO US?

OH, MR. PACKARD?

ACTUALLY, I WAS ONLY ASKING WHY YOU'RE IN COLLEGE IN THE FIRST PLACE.

OH! WELL, WHY DIDN'TCHA SAY SO?

EVENTUALLY AI'D LAIKE T'BE A CHOREOGRAPHAH, BUT MAI HEART WILL ALWAYS BE IN PERFORMING.

TAKE NOW, FOAH EXAMPLE; AI'M GUESSING YA WANT T' BE LET GO?

AI'VE BEEN TOLD AI'M A MASTAH AT READIN' MAI PARTNAH'S MOVES.

GRRRRR...

RAIGHT-O.

AI'M A DANCE MAJAH!

THIS IS RIDICULOUS. WAS A NORMAL ROOMMATE TOO MUCH TO ASK FOR?

NOOO, I GET A FRISKY, CLUELESS BUNDLE OF HORMONES THAT CHASES ANYTHING WITH A PULSE...

Y'ALRAIGHT, CODY? SORRY 'BOUT THAUT....

...WHO JUST HAPPENS TO BE REALLY HOT. WHAT IS THIS, SOME KIND OF FRESHMAN PRANK?

IT'S LIKE I'M LIVING IN A... IN A...

OOH, I HOPE NOBODY NOTITHETH I'M GAY...

B'DAY! JUST CALL ME MR. EXOTIC STEREOTYPE!

OOH! YUMMEH!

WAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA!

BUT...WAIT, WHAT WILL BECOME OF ME IF HE FINDS OUT I'M...

BY THE WAY, AI'M A NUDIST.

TOLDJA THE TOP BUNK WOULDN'T HOLD BOTH OF US.

OH, SHUSH.

WAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA!

?

AAAAAAAAA APPLAAAA

THERE'S NO WAY I'M GOING TO SPEND A WHOLE YEAR LIVING WITH THAT FOOL.

MAYBE SOMEONE ON THE FLOOR WOULD BE WILLING TO SWAP. I COULDN'T POSSIBLY GET ANY WORSE.

UM, HELLO. WOULD EITHER OF YOU BE INTERESTED IN...

L3V3L 47, I-I3R3 VV3 (0M3!!!ONE XD

VV007!!

S'UP, GUYS. I WAS WONDERING IF...

NO, MICHIKO'S TENTACLE RAPE SCENE IS IN VOL 47!

I'M TELLING YOU, IT'S VOLUME 46!

HEY THERE, I--

OOH, YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE IN GOOD SHAPE. CARE TO HELP US ALPHABETIZE OUR TEXTBOOKS?

STAR

GREETINGS, MORTAL. I WILL BE HAPPY TO CONVERSE WITH YOU AFTER THE SUN HAS SET.

COME ON IN, THE WATER'S FINE!

DUDE, THINK ANYONE WILL NOTICE THE SMOKE?

KOFF KOFF HACK

NAH...

KOFF! IS *EVERYBODY* IN THIS DORM CRAZY?!

YUP!

HUH?

WHOA... NICE CAR.

WELL...YOU ASKED.

THANKS!

DISGUSTINGLY AFFORDABLE REALLY, WITH ALL THE OVERTIME HERE.

OVERTIME?

GOAT2GO

BEEP

YEAH... SOMEONE ALREADY BUSTED THEIR DOOR, AND CLASSES HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED YET!

WHAT KINDA IDIOT WOULD--

OH, CRUD... BUSTED DOOR?

ACTUALLY, I, UH...NEED TO BE...SOMEWHERE ELSE...

SEEYA LATER?

SURE THING!

OH, WORD OF ADVICE? KEEP OFF THE GRASS!

OKAY.

"KEEP OFF THE GRASS?" TUH. WHAT'S NEXT, "BRUSH YOUR TEETH TWICE A DAY?"

WHA---?

HEY!!

OOF!

CAN'T YOU READ THE SIGN, KID?

YEAH...

DO NOT WALK ON THE GRASS OR ELSE

KUH!!

BUT IT'D BE A LOT EASIER TO READ IF IT WAS STILL IN THE GROUND.

COME GET SOME.

WHAT, YOU GONNA GO ALL CROUCHING TIGER ON ME?

HUWAAH...

HA-DOU-KEN!

FEH.

Y'KNOW...

INSULTS HAVE MORE IMPACT WHEN THEY'RE LESS THAN TEN YEARS OLD.

...

DON'T WALK

KRAK

OI! CODY, WHERE'D YA GO?

OOMP! SON OF A--

AH! THERE Y'ARE!

NUTS, NOT JAKE AGAIN! LONG AS HE DOESN'T HEAR ME, MAYBE--

ELLO 'GAIN! AI WANTED T'SEE IF YA'D LAIKE TO GRAB LUNCH?

NOT HUNGRY; I THINK I JUST SWALLOWED MY OWN NOSE.

WOT? Y'ALRAIGHT? WANT ME TO LOOK AT IT?

NO, I WAS KIDDING! I MEAN, I ALREADY GOT PLANS WITH...

UM WITH WITH UH...

AI... SEE.

HIM! WE'RE GONNA GET...UH... ICE CREAM!

YOU LIKE ICE CREAM, DONCHA, PAL?

MAIND IF AI TAG ALONG?

SURE, SURE, BUT... Y'KNOW, ALL THOSE *CALORIES* AND *SUGAR* AND *FAT*...

D'YOU *NEED* THEM? THERE'S NOT SOMETHING BETTER YOU COULD BE EATING?

WELL... IF YER GONNA PUT IT THAUT WAY...

MAYBE AI WON'T--

'KAY, SEEYAS!

SORRY ABOUT THAT...BORIS, WAS IT? ROOMMATE ISSUES. DON'T SUPPOSE YOU'D WANNA SWAP WITH ME, HUH? EH, I FIGURED AS MUCH, YOUR ROOMIE IS A LONGTIME BUDDY OF YOURS, RIGHT? LUCKY.

STRAWBERRY

VERY LUCKY...

TEXTBOOK

AW YEAH, HAWAII, HERE WE COME! THE BABES'LL BE ALL OVER US!

YEAH...BABES. UM...CAN WE TALK SERIOUSLY FOR A SEC, TODD?

SURE, MAN. WHAT'S ON YER MIND?

WELL... IF WE'RE GONNA BE ROOMMATES NOW, THERE'S... SOMETHING I THINK YOU SHOULD KNOW 'BOUT ME AFTER ALL THESE YEARS...

...SO, YEAH. YOU'RE LIKE THE CLOSEST FRIEND I'VE GOT, BUT I COULD BARELY ADMIT IT TO MYSELF, LET ALONE YOU. I HOPE HOPE YER OKAY WITH IT.

DUDE, I UNDERSTAND. I BET IT'S NOT EASY TO TELL ANYONE, SO I'M REALLY HONORED TO KNOW.

AND 'COURSE I'M OKAY WITH IT, LONG AS THAT'S NOT THE *ONLY* REASON YOU HANG OUT WITH ME.

HEH, SOMETIMES I FORGET WHY.

AND NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I GUESS THIS DOES SORTA EXPLAIN A FEW THINGS...

SUCH AS...?

OH...WELL, JUST... YOU HAD A TENDENCY TO... OVERCOMPENSATE.

OVERCOMPENSATE?! WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN??

ALL I EVER WANTED TO DO WAS ACT LIKE ONE OF THE GUYS. AND IT WAS TOO MUCH? SO I'M GAY IF I'M TOO GIRLY, BUT ALSO GAY IF I'M TOO MASCULINE?

HEY, EASY NOW, I...

C'MON, CALM DOWN, THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT. AS LONG AS I'VE KNOWN YOU, YOU COULDN'T STAND CONTACT FROM ANY GUYS, NOT EVEN ME. IT'S ALMOST LIKE YOU WERE...AFRAID. YOU ALWAYS HAD TO BE MR. STOIC, 'TIL YOU PUSHED EVERYONE AWAY AND BARELY HAD ANY FRIENDS LEFT. BEING SO UNAPPROACHABLE ONLY MAKES US WONDER IF YOU'RE...HIDING SOMETHING.

HIDING SOMETHING, HUH? IF I WANTED TO BE UNDER SCRUTINY ALL THE TIME, I COULD'VE PICKED SOME STRANGER TO BE MY ROOMATE INSTEAD.

ARRRGH! LOOK, I'M ONLY SAYING... FORGET IT! DAMMIT, ARE YOU GONNA BE THIS OVER-SENSITIVE ABOUT THE SUBJECT ALL THE TIME?

WELL. I GUESS WE SHOULD CALL THE HOUSING OFFICE TOMORROW.

GUESS SO.

WHAAA-WHA! OH. 'SUP, BORIS?

JUST ZONED OUT A SEC.

HUH?

OKAY, MAYBE MORE THAN A SEC. SAY, YOU DON'T MIND IF WE HEAD BACK TO THE DORM SO I CAN WASH UP, DO YA? THANKS.

NICE MEETIN' YA, BORIS. CATCH YOU LATER.

HEY, COOL, THE DOOR'S BACK. THAT FIXIT GUY IS QUICK.

I HOPE JAKE'S STILL OUT...

I CAN'T DEAL WITH ANYMORE EXCITEMENT TODAY...

WHAT TH--?!

OH, SOMEONE'S GONNA PAY FOR THIS.

THAT STUPID WOLF! I'M GONNA RIP HIS LUNGS OUT AND USE THEM AS A HAIRDRYER.

HEY, HEY, WHERE'S THE FIRE, TIGER?

MY BRAINDEAD ROOMMATE LEFT A "PRESENT" FOR ME. I'M JUST GONNA THANK HIM WITH BOTH FISTS.

IT'S ONLY WATER. BESIDES, *I* LEFT THAT, NOT HIM. I PULL PRANKS ON ALL THE KIDS WHO BREAK STUFF.

YOU?! ARE YOU TRYING TO GET YOURSELF FIRED? AND I THOUGHT YOU LIKED THE OVERTIME.

I LIKE THE PAY, NOT THE HOURS. AND ***MOST*** OF THE RESIDENTS HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOR. MAN, YOU'RE AS UPTIGHT AS THOR!

THOR? YOU MEAN OUR CRAZY GARDENER? YOU TAKE THAT BACK! I'M..A NICE GUY! HONESTLY!

WELL, WHY DON'T YOU PROVE IT WHILE I HELP YA MOP UP?

WHAT'S THOR'S DEAL, ANYWAYS? HE OBVIOUSLY HATES IT HERE.

AH, HE'S JUST A PLANT-LOVER, AND IT DRIVES HIM CRAZY THAT MOST STUDENTS TROMP ALL OVER HIS WORK.

SO WHY DOESN'T HE QUIT?

CAN'T. HE ACCIDENTALLY BURNT DOWN THE TOOL SHED HERE AWHILE BACK, AND HE'S STUCK WORKING FOR THE SCHOOL UNTIL HE PAYS OFF THE DAMAGES.

IF YOU DON'T LEARN TO RELAX, KID, YOU'LL END UP LIKE HIM SOMEDAY. YOU WON'T LAST LONG HERE, THAT'S FOR SURE.

OI!

DUDE!

THE NAME'S CODY, AND I APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN--

--JEFF. BUT I'LL BE JUST FINE.

JEFF. JEFF CORNWALLIS.

OI! AI'D LAIKE YA TO MEET MAI NEW PAL ZACH, CODY!

'SUP, DUDE?

'E LIVES ONE BUILDING OVAH, AND 'IS ROOMIE'S A PUTZ, SO AI TOLD 'IM 'E CAN COME OVER WHENEVAH! HOPE THAUT'S ALRAIGHT.

...

MONDO THANKS, DUDE! THE PEOPLE IN THIS DORM ARE WAY HOTTER!

OI!

DUDE!

OI!

DUDE!

I HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT, CODY.

I NEED TO CHANGE OUT OF THESE WET CLOTHES. DO YOU MIND--?

I MEANT... NEVERMIND.

NAUT AT ALL, MAITE!

IQ METER

200

100

0

MAKES SENSE TO ME, MAITE!

REMINDS ME OF SOMETHING I ALWAYS WONDERED, DUDE. A DANCER DANCES, AND A SURFER SURFS... SO, LIKE, DOES A TIGER TIGE?

SO, LIKE, WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO TIGE, THEN?

AI DUNNO, BUT AI'VE SEEN CODY DOING LOTSA DIFFERENT THINGS

YBE IT MEANS BROWL FOR NO REASON

BIVE DIRT LOOKS

TO LOOK GOOD WITHOUT SHIRT

TO ROLL EYES AND SIGH REALLY

BE WA AN FLUFF

KARATE.

ACTUALLY, IT MEANS "TO GO TO CLASS."

THE SEMESTAH'S NAUT STARTED! WOT CLASS'D THAUT BE?

WELL THEN. TAIGE AWAY!

I LOVE DOING THAT.

TOTALLY!

OVERCOMPENSATING AGAIN, ARE WE?

AW, WHO ASKED YOU?

THAT FELT GOOD. AND THREE TIMES A WEEK IS THREE TIMES I CAN AVOID JAKE. MAYBE I'LL GO MORE OFTEN...

EXCUSE ME. ARE YOU HEADING BACK TO CAMPUS?

UM, YEAH.

AH, SO JOSH WAS CORRECT; YOU ARE A STUDENT.

YUP. WHY?

IT'S JUST A BIT UNUSUAL FOR A DEMONTFORT STUDENT TO JOIN OUR DOJO WITHOUT DOING IT THROUGH OUR CLUB.

CLUB?

...

IT'S NOT UNPRECEDENTED, OF COURSE. SAY, DO YOU MIND IF I WALK WITH YOU?

VIDEO DVD

N-NOT AT ALL...

EXCELLENT. MY NAME'S KATHRYN, BY THE WAY. KATHRYN JONAS. WHAT'S YOURS?

THE DEMONTFORT KARATE CLUB EXISTS TO MAKE KARATE LESSONS MORE READILY AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS. OF COURSE, YOU SEEM TO BE MANAGING FINE ON YOUR OWN, BUT IT MAY STILL BE WORTH IT FOR YOU TO JOIN; WE PAY REDUCED DOJO FEES, AND ALSO ORGANIZE TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM CAMPUS.

THEY NEED IT, TOO. THEIR MEMBERS HAVE *SUCH* WEAK LEGS.

WE ALSO ARRANGE SOCIAL EVENTS. OUR CLUB MARCHES IN THE HOMECOMING PARADE...

--WHILE THE TAE KWON DO CLUB POINTS AND LAUGHS...

....WE ORGANIZE CAMPING TRIPS...

--TO GIVE YER ROOMIES A BREAK FROM THE SMELL...

AND STUDY BREAKS...

--CUZ YOUR BRAINS OVERHEAT WITH EVERY HALF HOUR OF USAGE.

SOME BUSINESS MAJOR YOU ARE! DON'T YOUR MARKETING CLASSES TELL YA GUYS ONLY PAY ATTENTION TO THE T&A FACTOR?

STOP TALKING AND START FLAUNTING! YOU KNOW HE LIKES 'EM JIGGLY AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE 'EM BIG!

I--

PLEASE EXCUSE JOLENE.

SHE'S EAGER TO PITCH HER TAE KWON DO CLUB ONCE SHE'S EATEN HER FILL; IT'LL BE AN HOUR OR TWO.

AN HOUR OR TWO?! THEM'S FIGHTIN' WORDS, GIRL.

WHAT *AREN'T* FIGHTING WORDS TO YOU?

"MERCY"? "YOU WIN"? "I GIVE UP"? *YOU* SHOULD BE FAMILIAR WITH THOSE.

ENOUGH.

WHOA!

IS THAT THE BEST YOU CAN DO?

MMM. BETTER. BUT NOT MUCH.

DOES THIS...HAPPEN OFTEN?

I'LL JUST BE A MINUTE. SHE NEVER LEAVES UNTIL I DEFEAT HER.

GRUDGE

PATIENCE

GRUDGE

PATIENCE

...

GRUDGE

K.O.

DEFEAT ME?! AS IF!

MAYBE TWICE A WEEK IS GOOD ENOUGH.

GREAT. SO IF THAT ISN'T GOING TO PAN OUT, WHAT ELSE IS LEFT?

DAILY NEWS

FREE! TAKE ONE

FREE! TAKE ONE

HM.

JOB CLASSIFIEDS?

YAAAAAWN! I GOTTA GET UP EARLY FOR WORK TOMORROW. I GUESS THAT MEANS YOU NEED TO LEAVE NOW, ZACH.

I'VE GOT A MIDTERM TOMORROW, JAKE. HERE'S FORTY DOLLARS. TAKE ZACH WITH YOU TO A DOUBLE FEATURE. I'D BETTER NOT SEE YOUR FACE IN HERE BEFORE 2 AM. GOT IT?

IT'S PERFECT.

iSO CHAPTER 2

IN SEARCH OF GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT

WHEN DID THIS SHIRT GET SO TIGHT?

DID I BULK UP THAT MUCH OVER THE SUMMER?

OI! CODY, WAIT UP!

NO... IT CAN'T BE...

JAKE! I THOUGHT YOU TWO WERE GOING TO A DOUBLE FEATURE!

WELL, WE WERE, BUT AI GUESS ZACH MISCOUNTED. WHERE'RE YA OFF TO?

DUDE, LOOKS LIKE HE'S GOING TO CHURCH!

NAH, IT'S NOT SUNDAY. MEBBE IT'S A FUNERAL. IT'D EXPLAIN WHY E'S BEEN SO GROWLY.

EXCUSE ME??

WELL, IF YA DON'T GET TH' JOB, IT'S NOT LAIKE YA 'AVE TO BE UP EARLY THE NEXT DAY, IF YA KNOW WOT AI MEAN.

YEAH, BE SURE TO GET HER NUMBER--OR HIS! IF YOU DON'T WANT IT, DUDE, I'LL TAKE IT!

IF YOU MUST KNOW, I'VE GOT A JOB INTERVIEW.

WHOA! THAT'S LIKE, WORSE THAN A FUNERAL. SORRY TO HEAR IT, DUDE.

NOW, ZACH, BE SUPPORTIVE OF CODY JOININ' THE RAT RACE! AI'VE EVEN GOT SOME ADVAICE FOR 'IM: HIT ON THE INTERVIEWAH! IT NEVAH FAILS!

I AM NOT GOING TO GET SOME GUY'S NUMBER FOR YOU!

POP

SHRED

OI!

MY... MY SHIRT!

MAJORLY HULK-ESQUE, DUDE!

YOU IDIOTS!

DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'VE JUST DONE? I CAN'T GO TO AN INTERIVEW LIKE THIS!

THEY'RE THE BIGGEST TEMP AGENCY IN TOWN! NOW I'M GOING TO BE LATE, AND THEY'LL NEVER GET ME A JOB ANYWHERE BUT McBURGER'S!

SORRY--

I OUGHTA...

TOTALLY--

AAAAAAH!!

PLEASE DON'T JUDO-CHOP US!

BAM

WHAT'S GOING ON OUT HERE? IS EVERYTHING OKAY?

HUH?

Y'ALRIGHT?

UM... YEAH. I'M FINE.

SORRY 'BOUT THE NOISE. I'M JUST A BIT PISSED THAT MY ROOMMATE COST ME A JOB INTERVIEW.

THAT BLOWS, MAN. ANYTHING I CAN DO TO HELP? SO YOU'RE STILL NEEDIN' A JOB?

YEAH. KNOW WHERE I CAN FIND ONE?

'S'A MATTER OF FACT....

BOUNCER WANTED INQUIRE W THIN

IT'S... IT'S A BAR?

IT'S *YOUR* BAR?

BUT...I'VE NEVER BEEN A BOUNCER. ARE YOU SURE I'M QUALIFIED?

YUP!

AND I THINK YOU'D BE PERFECT FOR THE JOB!

OH, I CAN TELL YOU'RE QUALIFIED.

TRUST ME.

WELL, THANKS VERY MUCH! MY NAME'S CODY FROST.

TYRONE BELTRAN.

WELCOME ABOARD!

HEY, TYRONE, WHAT'S WITH THE RAIL WAY UP THERE?

OH, THAT?

HUP!

I'LL SHOW YOU!

I DON'T CALL THIS PLACE "THE HANGOUT" FOR NOTHING!

THAT WAS AMAZING!

THANKS!

I USED TO ENTER BARTENDING COMPETITIONS. I BOUGHT THIS PLACE WITH ALL MY PRIZE MONEY.

C'MON, I'VE GOT SOME PAPERWORK FOR YA TO SIGN IN THE BACK...

I'LL BE A SEC. TAKE A LOOK AROUND, IF YOU LIKE. THE REST OF THE STAFF WILL BE HERE ANY MINUTE.

OKAY, THANKS.

THIS SEEMS LIKE A GOOD PLACE TO WORK.

I JUST HOPE MY CO-WORKERS ARE COOL, AND--

OOF!

WELL, THAT'S A STUPID PLACE TO PUT A--

WALL?!

HEY THERE!

I'M DOUG. YOU MUST BE OUR NEW BOUNCER!

YEAH, HI. ER, I'M CODY. YOU MUST BE OUR...

OUR---

UM...

OUR...

TYRONE!!

WHAT? WHAT'S UP?

I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU *NEEDED* A BOUNCER!

I'LL HANDLE THIS, TY.

MY BROTHER'S NO BOUNCER. HE'S HARMLESS.

HUH?

I'M SAMANTHA, BY THE WAY.

YOU CAN CALL ME SAM.

NICE TO MEET YOU BOTH.

PLEASURE'S ALL OURS.

ANYWAY, TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTION, WE'VE NEVER HAD A BOUNCER.

GET OUTTA HERE!

IT'S TRUE! AT FIRST TY AGREED TO HIRE DOUG CUZ HE'S GOOD AT MATH, AND COULD SPLIT BAR TABS IN HIS HEAD...

THEN WE FOUND ALL WE NEEDED WAS DOUG HANGING AROUND, AND SOMEHOW NOBODY EVER GAVE US ANY TROUBLE.

I GOT YOU SOME NICE HOT COFFEE 'NSTEAD OF ANOTHER SHOT. I THINK YOU SHOULD HAVE A FEW ROUNDS OF IT BEFORE YOU DRIVE HOME, MAYBE?

THANK YOU!

CREAM OR SUGAR?

SO WHY HIRE ME NOW?

DOCTOR'S ORDERS.

NOBODY'S FOOLED ANYMORE.

BUT HE'S INDISPENSIBLE HERE NOW. PLUS THERE'S STILL THIS "PUSHOVER" GAME WE RUN.

GAME?

YUP! IF YOU CAN MAKE DOUG SPILL HIS TRAY, THE REST OF YOUR TAB FOR THE NIGHT IS ON THE HOUSE.

BUT IF YOU TRY AND FAIL, YOU GOTTA TIP HIM THE VALUE OF WHAT HE'S CARRYING.

LOTSA FOLKS THINK THEY CAN. FEW SUCCEED. YOU'RE WELCOME TO GIVE IT A SHOT, CODY.

FEH.

!

DON'T FEEL TOO BAD. THE SECRET IS, HE'LL ONLY *LET* YOU WIN IF HE THINKS YOU'RE CUTE.

RAAAAAR!!

THUD

HEH-HEH, GREAT RUSE, YOU GUYS. NOW LET ME HAVE THAT, IT'S MY TURN.

HUH?

EXCUSE ME?

YOU WON'T. I KNOW KARATE. C'MON, LET'S GO.

I'M NO "PUSHOVER", EITHER. COME AT ME, YOU'LL SEE HOW TO DOUBLE YOUR YOUR TIPS.

HE'S NOT LIKE THAT!

I DON'T WANNA HURT YOU...

HEY!!

WELL, I KNOW KU CHI KU!

NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO NO

SAM, WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

HI, BECKY. JUST HUMILIATING OUR NEW BOUNCER.

CRUD, YOU GOT BEER ALL OVER ME.

SORRY 'BOUT THAT. CAN'T START YOUR FIRST DAY ALL WET, CAN YOU?

CUT IT OUT!!

YOU JUST RUN ALONG HOME AND GET CLEANED UP. WE'LL SEE YOU IN A BIT, OKAY?

SURE.

BYE, NOW!

TYRONE?

YEAH?

MEETING.

AW, NUTS.

SO NOW I'M DRESSED LIKE A CHIPPENDALE DANCER AND SMELL LIKE A BREWERY. IF A POLICEMAN SEES ME LIKE THIS, I AM SO ARRESTED.

GREAT, SO I GUESS SAM DOESN'T LIKE ME VERY MUCH. I HOPE SHE DOESN'T MAKE IT HARD TO WORK THERE.

MAYBE I OUGHTA JUST CUT MY LOSSES AND KEEP HUNTING FOR ANOTHER JOB. I'VE ONLY BEEN LOOKING FOR ONE DAY.

STILL, TYRONE SEEMS REALLY COOL. THE HOURS FIT IN GREAT WITH MY CLASSES. PLUS IT'D BE FUN TO GET PAID TO ACT TOUGH.

NOT TO MENTION DOUG IS A TOTAL STUD.

OH MY GAWD, WHAT THE HELL DID I JUST SAY THERE?

LUSTING OVER A CO-WORKER. BRILLIANT, CODY.

...YOU HIRED HIM ON THE SPOT? NO INTERVIEW OR ANYTHING? HOW DO YOU KNOW HE DOESN'T HAVE A CRIMINAL RECORD OR SOMETHING?

MY BAD. I... WENT WITH MY GUT FEELING, I GUESS.

HE'S A WALKING LAWSUIT WAITING TO HAPPEN...BAD-TEMPERED, ARROGANT, BELLIGERENT--

YES, WE PREFER OUR BOUNCERS SHY AND MEEK.

WHATEVER. OKAY, JUST... IN THE FUTURE, PLEASE REMEMBER WE GOTTA WORK WITH THIS GUY TOO, OKAY?

YOU'RE RIGHT, SAM. SO WHAT DO YOU THINK OF HIM, BECKY?

KIND OF A JERK, BUT THAT'S HIS JOB. HE'LL DO.

OH, YOU KNOW DOUG NEVER GIVES HIS OPINION ON ANYTHING.

HOW ABOUT YOU, DOUG?

YEAH, THAT'S TRUE...

SLAM

KLIK

YOU KNOW I VALUE YOUR JUDGEMENT, BUT GIVE HIM A CHANCE. LET'S SEE HOW A FEW DAYS GO.

OKAY, BUT HIS MOOD BETTER HAVE IMPROVED THE NEXT TIME I SEE HIM.

HAVING A GOOD DAY?

GWAH!

UH, YEAH, I JUST GOT A JOB.

AS A STRIPPER?

HUH? OH! NO, I HAD A SLIGHT... WARDROBE MAL-FUNCTION HERE.

AH. PITY, YOU COULD'VE BEEN RICH.

SPEAKING OF WARDROBE.... EVEN IF I GOT A JOB, I MAY NEED TO "REMIND" A CERTAIN AIRHEADED WOLF AND SKUNK TO STAY AWAY.

OH YEAH, THOSE TWO. I ACTUALLY HAVE SOMETHING THEY WANTED TO GIVE TO YOU.

HOPEFULLY A FORWARDING ADDRESS.

THEY'RE TOO AFRAID OF HAVING THEIR TAILS TORN OFF TO PRESENT IT THEMSELVES.

TOO SCARED TO *APOLOGIZE?* WOW... MAYBE I WAS KINDA HARSH WITH THEM...

BWAH-HA, THAT'S GREAT! I KNOW THE PERFECT PLACE FOR THIS. PLEASE TELL 'EM THANKS, AND THAT I'M NOT HOMICIDAL ANYMORE.

WILL DO.

I JUST HOPE THEY REMEMBER TO NOT SAY IT WAS ALL MY IDEA.

WAIT..I COULD'VE "BEEN RICH?"

WHY...? IS HE...?

NAAAH.

A SHORT TIME LATER...

THERE YOU ARE! TYRONE'S BUSY NOW, BUT THE PAPERWORK'S ALL READY FOR YOU IN THE BACK.

LOVE THE SHIRT.

THANKS! I JUST GOT IT NOW.

HAVE A NICE DAY

CAREFUL!

WHOA!

HAVE A NICE DAY

SORRY, DOUG.

S'OKAY, SPILLS HAPPEN.

ALL RIGHT, A FEW SIGNATURES AND I'M GAINFULLY EMPLOYED!

HAVE A NICE DAY

HAVE A NICE DAY

"SPILLS HAPPEN?"

HAVE A NICE DA

TO BE CONTINUED